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ARCHITECTURE OF A REFLECTIVE SPATIAL LIGHT MODULATOR

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BACKGROUND

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] The present patent application is a continuation of and claims the priority benefit of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/378,058, for "Architecture of a Reflective Spatial Light Modulator," filed February 27, 2003, which patent application claims priority from provisional U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 60/390,389, for "Reflective Spatial Light Modulator," filed June 19, 2002, the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] This invention relates to spatial light modulators (SLMs), and more particularly to a micro-mirror array with electronically addressable control circuitry for display applications.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] Spatial light modulators (SLMs) have numerous applications in the areas of optical information processing, projection displays, video and graphics monitors, televisions, and electrophotographic printing. Reflective SLMs are devices that modulate incident light in a spatial pattern to reflect an image corresponding to an electrical or optical input. The incident light may be modulated in phase, intensity, polarization, or deflection direction. A reflective SLM is typically comprised of an area or two-dimensional array of addressable picture elements